

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 PM-07 EUR-25 AF-10 ACDA-19

NSC-07 SPC-03 SS-20 RSC-01 L-03 H-03 CIAE-00 INR-10

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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3153

INFO DA

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

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JCS

COMMAC

USCINCEUR

CSA

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 932

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY BUFFUM

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR XF UN

SUBJECT: REQUEST THAT U.S. SPEED UP DELIVERY OF UNEF SUPPLIES

REFERENCE: STATE 051973, USUN 826, USUN 620

1. I AM SERIOUSLY CONCERNED OVER THE LACK OF RESPONSE BY OUR GOVERNMENT TO FREQUENT UN QUERIES ON THE STATUS OF VEHICLES ORDERED BY THE UN FROM THE U.S. TO SUPPLY UNEF.

2. ON NOVEMBER 20 AND DECEMBER 14, 1973, THE UN ORDERED (IN ASSIST LETTERS 73-15 AND 73-20) TWO MAJOR SHIPMENTS OF TRUCKS, COMPRISING 350 VEHICLES. THE U.S. AGREED TO PROVIDE THE VEHICLES, ON A FULLY REIMBURSABLE BASIS. THESE CARGO TRUCKS, AMBULANCES, WATER TRAILERS, ETC. ARE ESSENTIAL TO UNEF MOBILITY, SINCE MANY CONTINGENTS ARRIVED WITH VEHICLE
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COMPLEMENTS TOTALLY INADEQUATE FOR MOVEMENT IN THE DESERT.

(INDEED, THE NEPALESE CONTINGENT CANNOT BE DEPLOYED TO THE BUFFER ZONE FROM CAIRO "PENDING THE ARRIVAL OF ITS VEHICLES AND RADIO EQUIPMENT"- AS THE SYG STATED IN HIS LATEST REPORT TO THE SC.) THE TWO LARGE REQUISITIONS FROM THE US WERE ORDERED ON THE ASSUMPTION, BASED ON PAST UN EXPERIENCE, THAT THE US WOULD BE ABLE TO SUPPLY THE VEHICLES QUICKLY AND ENABLE UNEF TO BECOME SUFFICIENTLY MOBILE. OF SPECIAL CONCERN TO UN IS MOBILITY ON SYRIAN FRONT IF DISENGAGEMENT OCCURS.

3. UNEF COMMANDING GENERAL SIILASVUO HAS BECOME INCREASINGLY UPSET OVER UNEF'S SHORTAGE OF VEHICLES AND THE UN SECRETARIAT'S INABILITY TO INFORM HIM WHEN TRUCKS ARE SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE. SECRETARIAT, IN TURN, HAS BECOME MORE AND MORE INSISTENT IN ITS ORAL AND WRITTEN REQUESTS TO USUN FOR HARD INFORMATION ON SCHEDULED ARRIVAL TIME OF TRUCKS. (THESE REQUESTS HAVE BEEN RELAYED TO STATE AND DEFENSE BY TELEGRAM, LETTER AND TELEPHONE.)

4. IT SHOULD BE EMPHASIZED THAT THIS IS A STRAIGHT COMMERCIAL TRANSACTION, WITH NO CONNECTION TO US FREE AIRLIFT FOR UNEF. IT HAS, ON THE CONTRARY, CLEAR BALANCE OF PAYMENT ADVANTAGES FOR THE US.

5. STATE REFTEL RESPONDS TO OUR MOST RECENT REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION, AND INDICATES THAT IT IS NOT KNOWN WHEN REMAINDER OF VEHICLES WILL ARRIVE. THAT TELEGRAM ALSO ASKS DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY FOR INFORMATION ON ARRIVAL TIMES AND REQUESTS THAT SHIPMENT BE EXPEDITED.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: I AM SENDING THIS MESSAGE SO THAT YOU WILL UNDERSTAND THE URGENCY ATTACHED TO THE SPEEDIEST POSSIBLE SHIPMENT OF THE UNEF VEHICLES. ANYTHING YOU CAN DO TO HASTEN THEIR DELIVERY--AND PROVIDE US WITH ETA'S AS FAR IN ADVANCE AS POSSIBLE--WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED.

7. I SHOULD ADD THAT BOTH THE UN AND USUN RECOGNIZE AND APPRECIATE THE GREAT EFFORTS THAT DEFENSE AND STATE HAVE MADE TO MAKE UNEF AIRLIFT AND SUPPLY OPERATIONS A SUCCESS. AS IN PAST UN PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS, THE US
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MILITARY RESPONSE HAS BEEN FAR BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY, AND HAS MADE HIGHLY FAVORABLE IMPRESSION ON UN SECRETARIAT AND IN TROOP CONTRIBUTING COUNTRIES.

8. AFTER ABOVE WAS DRAFTED, A HIGH UN OFFICIAL JUST BACK FROM AN INSPECTION OF UNEF TOLD US THAT NOT ONLY WERE VEHICLES AND THEIR SPARE PARTS BADLY NEEDED, BUT WITH APPROACH OF WARM WEATHER, REFRIGERATION EQUIPMENT,

GENERATORS AND TENTS ORDER FROM US WERE ALSO URGENTLY
REQUIRED.
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